

- (h) Please see the answer to sub-divisions (c) to (f).
 (i) There is at present no such proposal. The Government consider that there are enough non-official members in the Committee.

The Economic Development Committee.

82. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) why in the recently constituted Economic Development Committee the Diwan Peishkar, the Conservator of Forests and the Excise Superintendent who are the Heads of three Departments which are responsible for the major portion of the revenue of the State are not included;

(b) why have the Director of Public Instruction and the Chief Engineer, both of whose departments are only a drain, though a useful one, on the revenue of the State, been included in it;

(c) why have the claims of the Diwan Peishkar who represents the department that is responsible for the major portion of the State revenue been overlooked and the Director of Public Instruction been made the President?

Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) Membership in the Committee has nothing to do with collection of revenue.

(b) The Director of Public Instruction is in charge of the Industries Department, and the Chief Engineer, of matters relating to Irrigation. Government consider that their services are valuable to the Committee.

(c) There is no question here of the claims of any person being overlooked. The Diwan Peishkar will equally be a suitable President. Only one President is wanted, and the choice of the Government fell on the Director of Public Instruction who is equally fit to be the President.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The answer given to (a) is "Membership in the Committee has nothing to do with collection of revenue." Has it not to do something with the development of the country?

President.—Yes. The resources of the State must be developed wherever possible. We never considered about the collection of revenue. Of course, there is a very good organised department in charge of it. We are not here concerned with the collection of the revenue.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—That is my question. The Head of that Department which brings the greatest amount of revenue is not included in the list.

President.—All right. He is not included.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Why was he not included?

President.—The Government did not consider him necessary. I think answers like that are enough for our purpose. Of course, to a certain extent, the Government exercise their discretion in matters like this. They look out for officials and non-official gentlemen and have a list before them. Now, if you ask the question why this man is appointed, why that man is not appointed, the Government will be in a difficult position.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I wanted to know the reasons.

President.—For all questions, answers are given. You ask: "Give reasons for your answer". We have subjected ourselves to examination in schools and colleges and Universities. We always see whenever a question is put, "Give reasons for your answer there." This is all very difficult—to ask a man in the service to give reasons for his actions. We have to sit and deliberate and find out reasons.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I want to know whether you have committed a mistake or not.

President.—No mistake is committed. These selections have been made with mature deliberation.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—He is only the Director of Industrial Schools. I don't think he has anything to do with industries outside. We need not expect any development of revenue out of Industrial Schools. That is not the reason why he should be included.

President.—Both of them are useful and worthy of being members.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The Chief Engineer also?

President.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—He has only to do original work, and cannot give suggestions wherever possible to give improvements in irrigation, and he will not be a Revenue Officer.

President.—He has simply to carry on the work, and we can expect him to have proper information on irrigational questions.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How can he know? He is not in touch with the land from which we collect revenue.

President.—Probably, you think that, because I was a Judge, I can know only Law and no other thing. Is it so? Of course, specific subjects we learn. We are experts in some subjects. But at the same time we have got a grounding in common knowledge, and I think the Chief Engineer is fit, by

reason of his position, to advise this Committee on many useful matters.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—What previous training had we for being Members of this Council?

President.—I do not want to take objection to the question. We are prepared to give all possible answers. But there are questions which are unanswerable from their very nature, and so they cause considerable difficulty and inconvenience to find out the causes just for the sake of giving answers. They cannot be found in papers and records. If you ask for information, we have simply to look into the files. Here you ask for the reason. This is a matter which we have not investigated. We have certain persons. In the opinion of the Government, they were considered worthy of being appointed as members. If we anticipated such questions, we would have noted down that the Chief Engineer is selected for this reason or for that.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know whether the Diwan Peishkar submitted a proposal about the Economic Development Committee?

President.—He might have submitted.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—He has made investigations, and made a proposal. He took the initiative, and still his name is not included.

President.—If at all, he should be appointed, I think, the proper place would be as President. He has already membership in several Committees. He is already in the Special Finance Committee, he is already in the Excise Committee, and why should we burden him with more work in Committees?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—This is a very important committee.

President.—I point out that every committee is important, and we cannot give any opinion on the comparative work of each committee.

A certain article in the Sahodaran regarding Hostels.

83. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has read the following lines published in the editorial article of the *Sahodaran* of the 22nd May 1926:—“എന്തിന് ഓരോ ജാതിക്കാക്കും പ്രത്യേകം പ്രത്യേകം ഹോസ്റ്റൽ? എല്ലാവർക്കും കൂടി ഒന്നുപോരെ? ബ്രാഹ്മണൻ വെച്ചു എല്ലാവർക്കും വിളമ്പിയാൽ മതിയല്ലോ എന്ന് മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു മിസ്റ്റർ കറപ്പനോട് കല്പിച്ചതായി കേട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്”.

(b) whether the above statement is a correct version of facts; and if it is,